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Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED POSS DUPE

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12
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DLOS-06 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 COA-02 EB-11 DRC-01 /145 W
---------- 108511
R 130542Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9552
INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMCONSUL MEDAN
AMCONSUL SURABAYA

UNCLAS JAKARTA 13321

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR,PBOR,SN,ID
SUBJ: LOS: SINGAPORE AMBASSADOR ON STRAITS OF MALACCA

REF: JAKARTA 12825

1. SINGAPORE'S AMBASSADOR TO INDONESIAN, LEE KUN CHOI, TOLD REPORTERS NOVEMBER 12, IN RESPONSE TO QUERIES ABOUT SINGAPORE'S POSITION ON THE STRAITS OF MALACCA, THAT SINGAPORE ADHERES TO INTERNATIONAL LAW AND THE DECISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS ON THE LIMITS OF TERRITORIAL WATERS. HE SAID SINGAPORE DEPENDS ON TRADE, AND THEREFORE DOES NOT WANT ANY OBSTRUCTIONS TO THE FLOW OF TRADE. HE ALSO NOTED THAT SINGAPORE LACKS THE MEANS TO CONTROL FOREIGN SHIP MOVEMENTS.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS NOVEMBER 13 (KOMPAS, JAKARTA TIMES, HARIAN KAMI), AMBASSADOR LEE MADE THESE REMARKS AT THE PARLIAMENT WHERE HE WAS ACCOMPANYING A TEN MEMBER SINGAPORE PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION NOW VISITING INDONESIA. HE REFUSED TO COMMENT ON MALIK'S RECENT EXPRESSION OF REGRET OVER THE TRANSIT OF U.S.
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WARSHIPS THROUGH THE STRAITS OF MALACCA WITHOUT NOTIFICATION TO THE NEIGHBORING STATES (REFTEL).

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BUT HE SAID SINGAPORE MUST TAKE A "REALISTIC" ATTITUDE
IN CONSIDERING THIS QUESTION, SINCE ITS NAVY HAS ONLY
TEN TO TWENTY PATROL BOATS AND IT THEREFORE LACKS THE
MEANS TO STOP MOVEMENTS OF U.S. AND OTHER FOREIGN SHIPS
THROUGH ADJOINING WATERS.
GALBRAITH

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Draft Date: 13 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: LOS: SINGAPORE AMBASSADOR ON STRAITS OF MALACCA
TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, SN, ID, XX, UN, (LEE KUN CHOI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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